

STATE SENATOR • HANSEN CLARKE • 1ST DISTRICT

Clarke Press Release

P.O. Box 30036 • Lansing • Michigan • 48909-7536 • 517-373-7346 • Fax: 517-373-5338
E-mail: senhclarke@senate.michigan.gov • www.senate.michigan.gov/dem/SD01



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CONTACT: State Sen. Hansen Clarke
OFFICE PHONE: 517/373-7346
MOBILE PHONE: 313/833-3353

SEN. CLARKE TO FIGHT FOR DETROIT PUBLIC LIBRARY **Detroit Democrat Vows to Fight \$1.7 Million Cut In State Support**

(Lansing)- State Senator Hansen Clarke (D-Detroit) vowed today to fight to restore \$1.7 million in state general fund support for the Detroit Public Library (DPL). Senate Republicans removed the funding during a subcommittee meeting last week.

“Those proposing these cuts fail to appreciate that the Detroit Public Library is the jewel of our state library system,” said Sen. Clarke. “Over 1/3rd of the borrowers of the Detroit Public Library are not even residents of Detroit. They come to the DPL because it has collections that can be found nowhere else.”

The Detroit Public Library is not affiliated with the City of Detroit municipal government, rather it serves as a state institution. As such, the library is the depository for the state’s most important historical collections.

Sen. Clarke stated he will offer an amendment in Wednesday's Appropriations meeting to restore the funding. "The Detroit Public Library's contribution to our state and community is too important to be slashed when alternatives solutions exist."

Sen. Clarke also will attempt to restore \$935,000 in federal grant money that Senate Republicans removed from the Detroit Public Library budget. The grant money had been earmarked to help assist unemployed workers. "With so many unemployed in the Detroit area, we should not be cutting funding for services that help people get back on their feet," said Sen. Clarke.
